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## **ABSTRACT**

A data recognition module recognizes the type of content (e.g. textual or photographic data) contained within a rasterized image formed of dithered device ready bits. In operation, the data recognition module associates data patterns found within the data to determine the content type of the rasterized image. Knowledge of the content type provides insight to selection of a preferred compression algorithm or other process. In one implementation, where a print driver on a workstation outputs device ready bits corresponding to a rasterized image of text, photograph or other content, the data recognition module may reside on the workstation, where it recognizes the type of content contained within the device ready bits. This information is then used to determine a preferred type of compression.